



Carrie Mathena

MISSIONARY TO CHILDREN OF GRENADA, WEST INDIES

July/August 2024

Dear Friends and Family,

*“Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done,
and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned
up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them,
they are more than can be numbered.”*

Psalm 40:5

This summer was much more eventful and busier than I could have ever anticipated, but God worked in a mighty way:

TO PROTECT:

It is hard to believe that the first week of summer break was spent preparing for a hurricane. Hurricane Beryl was a Category 3 when it hit Grenada on June 24th. The Lord protected us as we watched and listened to trees crash down around us. A piece of tin from a neighbor’s roof flew right past us narrowly missing the church, gate, and house. Quite a few large tree limbs fell on my apartment and the veranda of the church. One hit the corner of the classroom causing a leak, and I had to move everything out of that corner during the storm. Thankfully, there was no major damage, but it took several days to clean up. Clean-up and basic living were especially challenging without electricity and water. As I walked through the community, it was shocking to see how many trees fell and yet none of them fell on any of the houses. It was sad, however, that people did not come to church before the storm to pray for God’s protection and they did not come after the storm to thank Him for His blessings. Only a faithful few came those Sundays highlighting people’s need for the Savior in this community.

TO PROVIDE:

1. After the hurricane, God provided money to repair several leaks.
2. Several months ago, God provided paint for the walls of the church. Finally, we had the money to hire someone to do the work and it looks beautiful. God has also provided new carpet for the stage which we hope to have installed soon.
3. Every year, we do a Back to School/Back to Church Children’s Crusade at the end of the summer. Our goal is to help the children in our community by providing school supplies and encouraging them to return to church as many go away for the summer. Thanks to two VBS offerings, we were able to purchase everything we wanted even with the rising prices. Please pray for the crusade which starts next Monday.
4. I was also able to purchase cleaning supplies for the next year of pre-school thanks to a generous gift along with a rug, storage bin, and new sand for the sand box which was filthy after the hurricane.
5. On a personal note, I also had some needs. My apartment has needed to be painted for several years, and I was finally able to complete the project. The Lord also provided the money so that I could have several skin cancer spots removed. I am so thankful that He has met so many needs this summer!

TO PREPARE:

Summer is an important time for me to prepare for the future. This summer I was able to write a new Christmas program for the choir, to learn new songs for the choir, to organize children’s classes at church for the next few months, and to decorate and prepare for the Children’s Crusade. Cleaning, organizing, and preparing for the new school year also took a lot of time, and I even enrolled a new student!

I am excited to see what “wonderful works” God has in store for the rest of this year and am so thankful He gave me this time to get ready. It will be my joy to share as many of them with you as I can! Thank-you for all that you do to be a part of this ministry.

Serving together with you to reach the children of Grenada,

Carrie Mathena